

The Canal Zone Philatelist



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Whole No. 128

President's Report

Jim Crumpacker

P.O. Box 1836

Las Vegas, NV 89125

By the time you read this the big American Philatelic Society show in Santa Clara, California will be history and we will be looking forward to the 27th annual consecutive CZSG Mail Sale. Kudos to Jerry Craig and crew for their superlative efforts regarding the 1998 CZSG Mail Sale. Readers: Bid 'em up.

A proposal was made to put this entire CZSG Sale onto our *website*, in addition to the usual paper mailing. This has moderate attraction as a way to increase membership and might entice higher bids for some of the Sale lots. Time constraints, plus the fact the site as it exists needs some tweaking, will prevent any electronic attempt *this year*, but the idea is tantalizing for the future.

Also, inquiries have arrived from potential advertisers about inserting ads onto the website. We have accepted ads from responsible firms and individuals for the *Canal Zone Philatelist* throughout our history. Should the electronic medium be any different? Any member with ideas or comments on these opportunities (or who would care to run the Internet portion of a bifurcated Mail Sale) please send same to myself or your CZP Editor, Richard Spielberg.

Our thanks to Alan Bentz, Jim Noll, Gary Weiss, David Leeds and the other members who contributed to the rapid realization of the website dreams.

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Meeting Notice

The CZSG will hold a meeting during:

SESCAL 98, Wyndham Los Angeles Airport Hotel, Oct. 2-4.

THAMESPEX 98, Waterford (CT) High School, Oct. 25 in the afternoon.

ARIPEX in Tucson, AZ on Saturday, January 23, 1999 at 2:00 p.m.

SANDICAL 99 in San Diego, CA, Jan. 29-31.

AMERICAS 99 in Orlando, FL, Feb. 25-28. Please consult the program for day, time and room location.

ABNCo Archive Specimens of the 1911 & 1914 Map Stamps

James W. Crumpacker, Gary B. Weiss, and David J. Leeds



Fig. 1. CZSG #36S var., Pos. 3-7: Red "F2171" above Pos. 3; CZSG #36Sb "SPECIMEN" double Pos. 5; ABNCo logo above Pos. 5-6; Top centerline above Pos. 5-6; Archive date above Pos. 7.

The 1911 and 1914 American Bank Note Company (ABNCo) Archive map stamps, CZSG 36S and 37S, were the only map stamps overprinted for the Canal Zone by ABNCo. They are among the simplest of the group of specimen overprints. The two stamps are quite attractive with the Panama independence banner imposed on the 1892 map issue, and a distinctive gray color, Fig. 1.

The well known story for their denomination, detailed in *Canal Zone Stamps*, is that the 13 centesimos (cts.) was ordered in 1909 in anticipation of the requirement for a single stamp to pay the 8 cts. registration plus 5 cts. foreign postage rate. Meanwhile the registration rate was raised to 10 cts. thus downgrading the requirement, obviating the need for the 13 cts. stamp. It took two years for the Canal Zone postal system to devise a means of salvaging the useless denomination — locally overprinting the stamps "10 cts.". A 10 cts. stamp of the same design was subsequently ordered and supplied by ABNCo and placed into service in 1911. The "CANAL ZONE" overprint for both issues was part of the ABNCo manufacturing process.

While Panama had no need for a 13 cts. denomination, it seems strange that they never issued the unoverprinted 10 cts. It

may be that they had adequate stocks of the previous 10 cts. issues.

There were no engraved order numbers in the selvage since the dates of manufacture are before such markings became routine. The archive sheets have a red handstamped number above position 3 on all sheets, F2171 and F2932 respectively, for the two issues, the order numbers.

The **SPECIMEN** overprint, 13.9 by 1.8mm in red, is applied diagonally

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The Canal Zone Philatelist

A.P.S. Affiliate No. 42

<http://home.att.net/~a.bentz/Czsg.htm>

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Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Editor.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone, or FAX the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

President's Report

(Continued from page 17)

CZSG plans a major regional meeting at **AMERICAS 99** which is to be held Feb. 25-28, 1999 in Orlando, Florida. The exhibition is essentially limited to North, Central and South American stamps and postal history. While the APS is the sole source of funding, the show enjoys the patronage of the Federacion Interamericana de Filatelia (FIAF) and recognition by the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (FIP). In short, it's a major show of concentrated interest for collectors of Isthmian philately. Details of our involvement will appear in the Fourth Quarter issue of *CZP*. Rumor has it there are other things to do in the Orlando area in late winter; bring the grandchildren.

CANAL ZONE STUDY GROUP WEB PAGE

The Canal Zone Study Group (CZSG) has recently put a web page on the Internet. Its purpose is to describe the objectives of the CZSG and provide an application form. The web page appears at two locations:

<http://home.att.net/~a.bentz/Czsg.htm>,

and

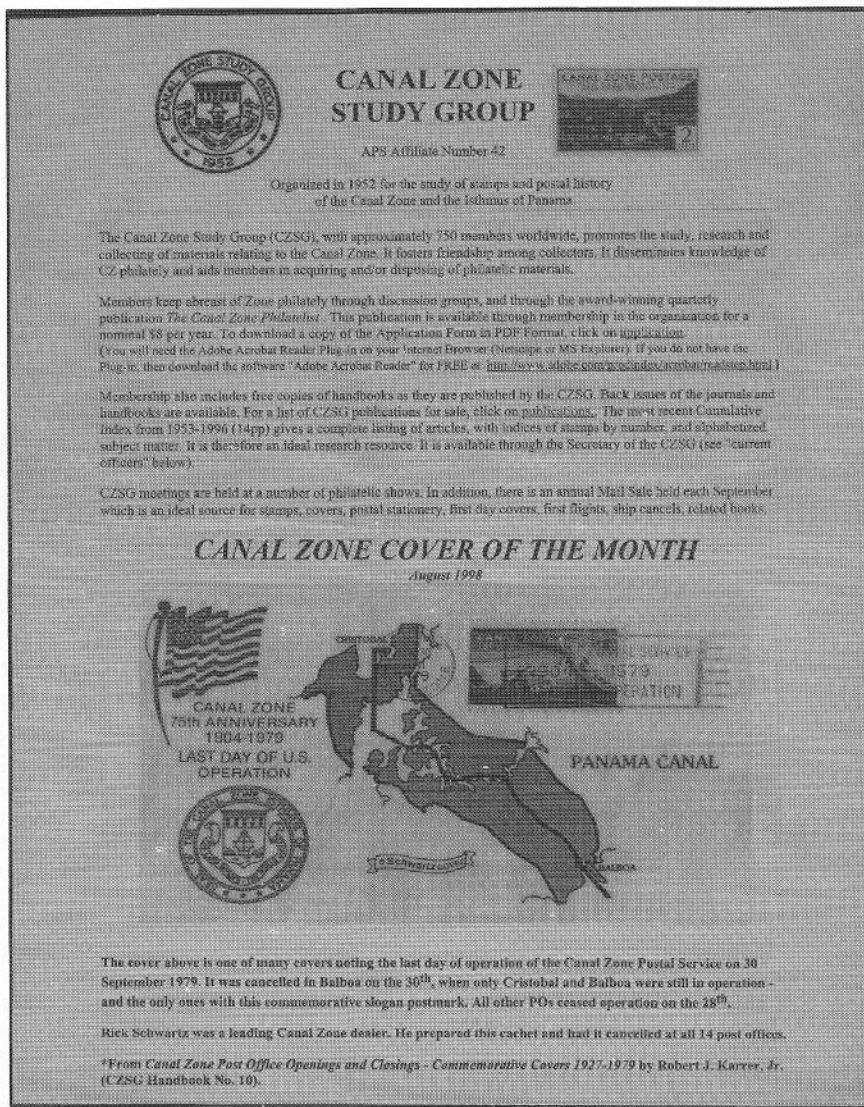
<http://www.stampshows.com/czsg.html>

The web page also lists the CZSG publications available and current officers with addresses.

An announcement page lists the shows where meetings of the CZSG are to be held. The page also gives updates on the annual CZSG Mail Sale.

Finally, there is featured a "Cover of the Month" relating to Canal Zone Philately.

We solicit suggestions for improvements, and/or additions. Please contact Alan P. Bentz at: a.bentz@worldnet.att.net



CZSG WEB Page

Book Review

by David L. Farnsworth

The Noriega Mess: The Drugs, the Canal, and Why America Invaded by Luis E. Murillo (Berkeley, CA: Video Books, 1995) (ISBN 0-923444-02-5), 1096 pages, hardbound, \$32.00.

This is a highly personal account of the recent history of Panama. The reader is in no way left guessing where Dr. Murillo stands on Panamanian issues. Having lived in Panama and being educated and employed in the United States, Dr. Murillo has firsthand information and his own viewpoint. His main theme is that

the "Torrijos-Noriega system" harmed Panama greatly. Considering these two regimes as a continuum is in some ways unique to this book.

Amazon.com's web site on July 9, 1998 gave the following quote by Betty Brannan of *La Prensa* "Monumental... The definitive history of modern Panama..." This is the full text, as are the two quotes below. Ms. Brannan may be describing in part the size of the book since it is 2 3/4 inches thick and weighs about 3 1/2 pounds. The site also quoted John le Carré as writing "I consumed it with much

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Secretary's Report

John C. Smith

408 Redwood Ln.

Schaumburg, IL 60193

As of August 4, our total membership stands at 793. Unfortunately, 21 have

Note from the Editor, Richard Spielberg

Last quarter some of our members were treated to a rare edition of our Journal (CZP 127). We hope that these copies remain rarities. In an ironic twist the Editor's copy had the glitch — two pages overprinted on some one-else's copy. A dozen or so members have requested replacement copies which have been sent to England, Japan, and California. We have been unable to figure out the contaminated group but cannot believe it was random. Not all were foreign, nor were they zip-code sequenced. Advise the Secretary if you need a replacement copy. Owl Printing regrets the mistake.

Winner:

Filatelie Fiesta, June 27-28, San Jose, CA Gold, APS 1900-40, American Air Mail Society medals; to Allen M. Harris, "Canal Zone and Related Aerophilately 1918-1938."

Book Review

(Continued from page 18)

interest and gained great instruction from it..." I think that the main contribution of this book to the literature is the personal detail about events such as Dr. Hugo Spadafora's murder. Although this is not a disinterested account, the author appears to be trying to give a true picture of events. He documents his sources well.

I concur with R.M. Koster's quote "I found much I didn't know and nothing I could dispute..." that appeared on the same web site. Mr. Koster was a co-author of the outstanding book *In the Time of the Tyrants*, which was reviewed in CZP, Vol. 30, No. 3 (Whole No. 112), page 24.

Visit the CZSG Web Site

<http://home.att.net/~bentz/Czsg.htm>

Canal Zone Study Group Financial Statement for the Years 1996 & 1997

	1997	1996
Revenue: Dues earned	\$8,741	\$8,930
Sales: Book: <i>Canal Zone Stamps</i>	1,287	312
Other publications	503	193
Advertising - CZP	410	520
	2,200	1,025
Interest on checking (NOW) account	2,675	2,232
Mail Sale proceeds (Note)	3,466	1,382
Total revenue	17,082	13,569
Expenses: CZP printing,		
postage, editorial	8,575	5,384
Membership, publicity, administration	2,362	1,150
Other publications for members	3,249	-----
Exhibits at <i>Pacific '97</i>	356	30
Advertisement - Scott catalogue	280	280
Total expenses	14,822	6,844
Revenue over expenses for the year	2,260	6,725
Net assets as of:		
1 January	78,574	71,849
31 December: Cash in NOW account	\$88,864	\$86,110
Less dues received in advance	(8,030)	(7,536)
	\$80,834	\$78,574

As of December 31, there were no outstanding unrecorded bills. Dues are reported as income in the year to which they relate. Proceeds from the mail sale are reported as income in the year the sale is held.

Note: Mail Sale results:

Lots sold	\$65,132	\$49,584
Less payment to sellers	(58,619)	(44,626)
Net (10%) to CZSG	6,513	4,958
Expenses: Printing	1,230	
Postage	1,356	
Other	461	
Total	(3,047)	(3,576)
Net proceeds to CZSG (above)	\$3,466	\$1,382

Richard F. Larkin, Treasurer

Canal Zone Postal Rates

The CZSG will be publishing a series of articles in the *Philatelist*, or a booklet on the subject of Canal Zone Postal Rates. The publication committee would appreciate receiving information from members who might have copies of primary sources of CZ Rates to assist in collaboration.

Also please forward xerox copies of covers with unusual rates for illustration, forward to the Editor.

Auctions by Jim Crumpacker

Many unusual or rarely seen Canal Zone items were offered for public auction during the second quarter, April 1-June 30, 1998. Condition rarities abounded and some smaller firms had 30 or so Canal Zone lots where 3 would be the norm for them. The quantity of error material was also high.

The realizations shown below include any applicable commission, the catalog values are then given in parenthesis and come from the 1998 Scott's Specialized.

- 2, F, on VF sl. reduced local cover Cristobal 7/2/04 \$154 (\$240) Schiff
- 3, TG, H, F \$198 (\$375) Bennett
- 3, used, barely F \$115 (\$225) Superior
- 3, F on VF cover Ancon to Cristobal 7/9/04 \$209 (\$325) Schiff
- 4, pl. bl. of 6, #2143-B, OG, HR's, F \$743 (\$875) Shreve's
- 4-8, F-VF (#8 a crease) all on one lightly toned cover Crist. 12/8/04 to Jamaica \$319 (\$n/a) Bennett
- 5, pl. bl. of 6, #2203-L, OG, H, F \$935 (\$925) Shreve's
- 6, OG, H, VF+ \$308 (\$100) Bennett
- 6, pl. bl. of 6, #1888-L, OG, H, F-F+ \$798 (\$1400) Shreve's
- 7, pl. bl. of 6, #1500-B, OG, 5 of 6 NH, F-VF \$2970 (\$1900) Shreve's
- 8, pl. bl. of 6, #1590-B, OG, HR as reinf., one stamp w/nat. gum cr., F \$1650 (\$2300) Shreve's
- 12 var., PANAMA, used on piece, barely F \$949 (\$900) Ivy & Mader
- 13a, b, CANAL and ZONE antique, OG, HR, barely F in bl. 9 w/7 normals \$196 (\$515) Aldrich
- 14b, CANAL ZONE inverted, OG, NH, F-VF margin copy \$165 (\$425) Schiff
- 15, TG, H, VF \$2185 (\$3000) Superior
- 20 var., PANAMA reading up at left, dry OG, H, F+ in margin bl. 6 w/5 normals \$242 (\$345) Bennett
- 24c, double overprint, TG, H, F \$143 (\$450) Schiff
- 46, OG, NH, VF margin copy, 1st pr. \$104 (\$160) Philstamps
- 46a, overprint reading down, TG, H, F+ \$230 (\$375) Superior
- 46b, double overprint, TG w/light interl. adherence, H, VF+ \$198 (\$300) Bennett
- 47, OG, H, a small crease o/w VF+ \$1700 (\$3000) Bennett
- 48, OG, HR, F \$269 (\$550) Cee-Jay
- 53, OG, H, F-VF \$44 (\$115) Suburban
- 54, OG, NH, F-VF \$150 (\$200) Philstamps
- 56a, double overprint, OG, H, barely F \$132 (\$575) Schiff
- 57, OG, H, F-VF \$138 (\$325) Superior
- 67, OG, H, F+ \$220 (\$500) Bennett
- 67, used, F \$121 (\$200) Aldrich
- 69 var., 12¢ "ARMS", TG, H, F CZSG 69.C \$127 (\$250) Schiff

- 73a, booklet pane of 6, OG, H, F-VF \$151 (\$175) Cee-Jay
- 76, pl. bl. of 6, #15351-T, OG, 5 of 6 NH, VF \$688 (\$450) Shreve's
- 80, pl. bl. of 6, #14042-B, OG (lt. Dist. from interl.), H, F-VF \$2750 (\$1750) Shreve's
- 81, OG, HR, F \$81 (\$225) Philstamps
- 81, pl. bl. of 6, #14268-T, OG (lt. dist. from interl.), H, F \$3080 (\$4000) Shreve's
- 84, pl. bl. of 6, #17842-UR, in an overall bl. of 10, with 5-pointed star, OG, H, F \$2200 (\$1660) Shreve's
- 84b, ZONE CANAL, OG, NH, F \$209 (\$350) Schiff
- 86c, inverted overprint, OG, H, F \$209 (\$500) Schiff
- 89, pl. bl. of 6, #14526-T, OG, NH, F-VF \$440 (\$350) Shreve's
- 91a, ZONE only, OG, H, VF-F \$352 (\$800) Schiff
- 94, corner margin bl. of 4 w/siderographer's initials, slightly tropical OG, H, VF \$633 (\$1000) Suburban
- 95, pl. bl. of 6, #14268-T, OG, H, F+ to VF \$1980 (\$1600) Shreve's
- 101a, booklet pane of 6, OG, NH, VF \$242 (\$175) Superior
- 131, pl. bl. of 6, bottom, OG, H, XF \$99 (\$160) Tropical
- C2, OG, H, F+ \$56 (\$85) Cee-Jay
- C13, full pane of 50, OG, NH, F-VF, with autograph in selvedge by designer Meade Bolton \$127 (\$194) Philstamps
- CO8, OG, NH, F+ \$129 (\$150) Cee-Jay
- J1, unique complete LR pane of 100, pl. #5522, OG (interl. adheres to gum), selvedge faults, VG-VF \$2200 (\$8880) Shreve's
- J1, J2 (both VG) on VF cover from Panama to Cristobal w/Panama #195, Cristobal Hs, 11 8/22/14 \$288 (\$320) Spink America
- J5, TG, H, F \$81 (\$200) Superior
- J5, OG, H, VF \$219 (\$200) Regency
- J18a, ZONE ZONE, TG, H, F+ in bl. 9 with 8 normals \$1495 (\$1314) Ivy & Mader
- J20, OG, H, VF \$115 (\$150) Superior
- O8, OG, H, VF cto as always \$385 (\$675) Bennett
- OX1, complete sheet of 8, no gum as issued, F-VF \$330 (\$350) Schiff
- OX5, complete sheet of 32; six stamps are OX5a (watermarked), no gum as issued, VF \$143 (\$250) Schiff
- U2c, frame only, mint, light wrinkles and flap fold separation, o/w VF \$578 (\$1000) Schiff
- UF1 (UPSS R1), used, VF, Corozal 11/1/19 to US w/two sl. faulty copies of #53, \$1100 (\$2000) Ivy & Mader
- O3, proof, vertical pair, imperf. on off-white paper, CZSG O3.Pla \$150 (\$n/a) Philstamps
- c.d.s. reading U.S. POSTAL AGENCY PANAMA, with mute killer on otherwise blank faulty small cover. Proof

postmark? \$489 (\$n/a) Philstamps

- catapult cover (F-VF) w/CZ 107 and C5, Cristobal Paquebot 6/15/32 via NYC, launched off Southampton to Netherlands \$1045 (\$n/a) Cherrystone
- Zeppelin S. America flight cover, VF, sent CZ to NYC on FAM-5 Cristobal 5/1/30, then Lakehurst to Friedrichshafen, CZ stamps 95x2, 114, C4, C5, Sieger 64-II \$2090 (\$n/a) Cherrystone
- Zeppelin flight cover, Havana segment via Seville and back to Friedrichshafen, Cristobal 5/15/30 w/8 copies of CZ C3, Sieger 64-IIIb \$1650 (\$n/a) Cherrystone

The addresses of these auction houses are shown below. Please mention CZP should you request an auction catalog from any.

Michael E. Aldrich Auctions, Inc.
P.O. Box 130484
Saint Paul, MN 55113

Matthew Bennett, Inc.
601 Washington Ave.
The Penthouse, Suite 401
Baltimore, MD 21204

Cee-Jay Auctions
P.O. Box 1707
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Cherrystone Auctions, Inc.
119 West 57th St.
New York, NY 10019

Ivy & Mader Philatelic Auctions, Inc.
775 Passaic Avenue
West Caldwell, NJ 07006

Philstamps
505 N. Arrowhead Ave., Suite 507
San Bernardino, CA 92401

Regency Stamps
LeChateau Village #106
10411 Clayton Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63131-2911

Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc.
195 Main Street
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660-1696

Shreves Philatelic Galleries, Inc.
14131 Midway Rd., Suite 1250
Dallas, TX 75244

Spink America
55 East 59th Street, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10022

Suburban Stamp, Inc.
176 Worthington St.
Springfield, MA 01101

Superior Stamps & Coin
9478 West Olympic Blvd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212-4299

Tropical Stamps, Inc.
P.O. Box 5646
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310

Panama Canal Stamp Cachets

The several figures illustrate first day cover cachets of the Celebrate the Century Panama Canal stamp.

Chris DeVoe of C&H Stamps utilized the popular PPC of "Kiss of the Oceans" as the motif, Fig. 1. To that he added two of the several Panama Canal seals. Chris prepared 100 of these — see his ad in this issue of our journal.

Jeanne Stough developed a full cover illustration from a painting by her father, Fig. 2. Jeanne distributed the envelopes — getting the first day cancel the problem for the buyers.

Herb Nikirk, a prominent California artist, Artist in Residence, and President of the Philatelic Society of Los Angeles created the hand-painted design shown

in Fig. 3. He prepared 25 numbered and signed copies of the complete set of 15 covers, with only a few extra for the Panama Canal stamp. Contact Herb at Box 2217, Culver City, CA 90230 for the complete set.

Two interesting cachets were produced by Ed Jordan, but in too limited quantities. A 1909 wrap-around map is the background on a #10 cover (six copies); an old child's coloring book was the source of the other (four copies), Fig. 4.

Chris Wrenn's production is shown in Fig. 5. The hobby Link cachet, Fig. 6, is available at P.O. Box 17604, Bolder, CO 80308-0604.

A little background might be looked at in the preparation scheme for United States first day covers. These covers need not be actually cancelled on the actual first day of issue. The USPS allows

collectors to send stamped, unaddressed envelopes to their facility in Kansas City where they are cancelled with the appropriately dated device of the first day city. So, even if the ceremony was in Podunk you can get yours cancelled as much as a month later with a Podunk cancel (applied at the USPS facility in Kansas City). Dealers are allowed 90 days to get their act together. And, to further complicate the deal, the cancelled covers may have their cachets applied either before or after the Kansas City action. They also replace damaged covers. The Zone was a bit more direct although it was their practice in later years to start processing mail orders as soon as the stamps were available, sometimes as much as a week or so before the official first day.

D.J. Leeds

Panama Canal Stamp Cachets

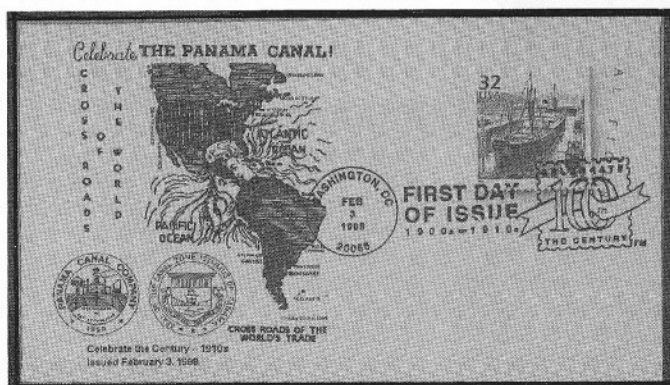


Fig. 1. C & H Stamps Cachet

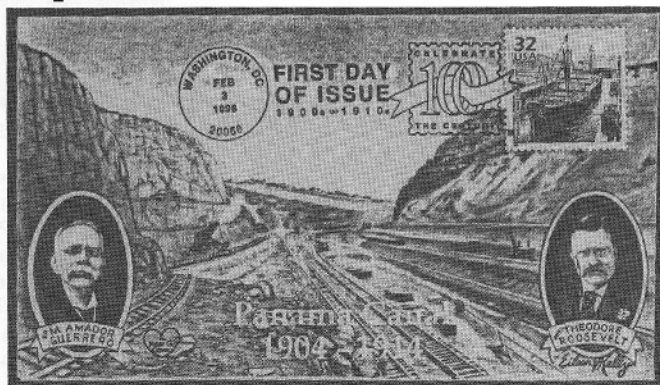


Fig. 2. Jeanne Stough Cachet

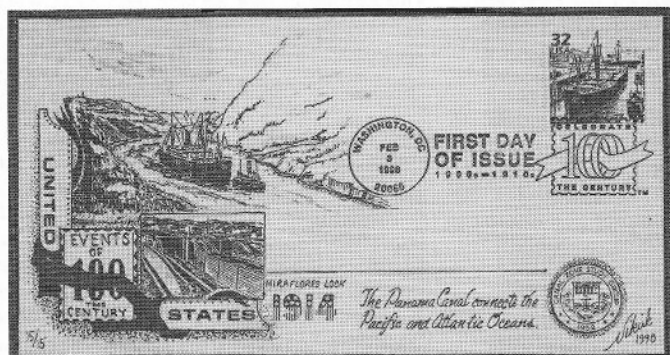


Fig. 3. Herb Nikirk Cachet

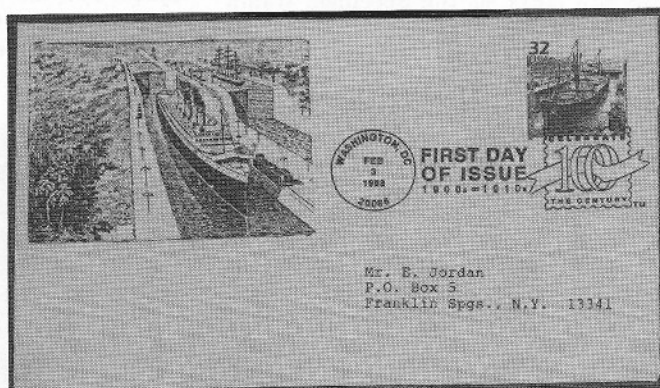


Fig. 4. Ed Jordan Cachet

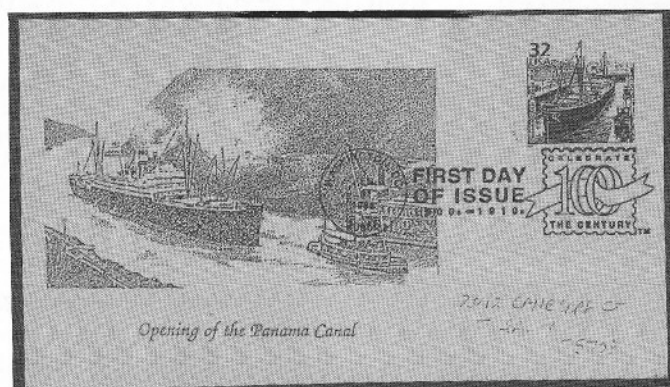


Fig. 5. Chris Wrenn Cachet

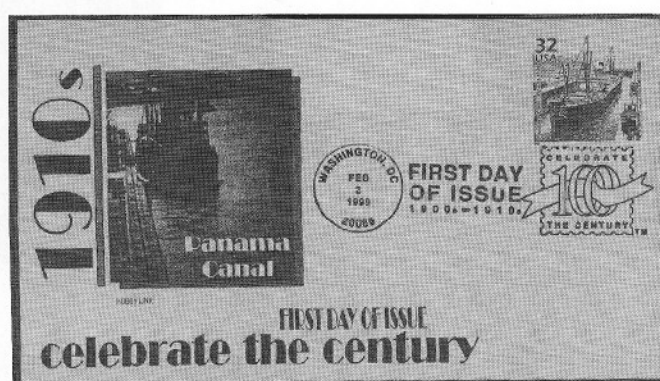


Fig. 6. Hobby Link Cachet

ABNCo Archive Specimen CZSG 36S and 37S

(Continued from page 17)

upward to the right at an angle of approximately 0% to 10% on 36S, and 10% to 25% on 37S.

The three Archive sheets of each denomination have been arbitrarily designated Sheet A, Sheet B, and Sheet C. They are rubber stamp dated in the selvage at Pos. 7, "SEP 16 1909" for the 13 cts. The 10 cts. is dated "MAY 26 1911" in the selvage above Pos. 5-6 for all three sheets; sheet C has a second "MAY 26 1911" in the selvage above Pos. 7. All of the dates are in a light red purple.

One sheet of each denomination (Sheet C) has the large boxed rubber stamp "RETURN TO / ISSUE ROOM / to be held for reference" on the selvage and through Pos. 8, 9, and 10, also in light red purple, Fig. 2.



Fig. 2. CZSG #36S, Return to Issue Room Handstamp. Pos. 8-10, Sheet C.

13 centesimos, CZSG 36S

The numbering of this specimen 13 cts. stamp raises problems and the final designation may be changed. Scott No. 36 has an additional "10 cts." overprint this specimen lacks, so the Specimen stamp is not truly a specimen of CZSG No. 36. Scott No. 36b is an error with the overprint missing; this 13 cts. sheet without the value (change) surcharge was never intended to be overprinted so is not a specimen of the error 36b, although it resembles the error. We have chosen not to call this CZSG 36bS, but to use the simpler 36S. Lacking the specimen overprint and punch it would be an unissued essay.

Spacing between CANAL and ZONE ranges from 13.8 to 14.0mm on most positions. Position 89 has a 14.2mm spacing, Fig. 3. The two words CANAL



Fig. 3. CZSG #36Sa, 14.2mm Spacing, Pos. 89.

and ZONE are evenly centered on all positions so that there are no C over Z or L over E varieties.

"AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY, NEW YORK" is found in very small type in the selvage above Pos. 5-6, and below Pos. 95-96. There is also a fine vertical center line outside this imprint at both top and bottom of the sheet selvage. A similar horizontal line is to the left, Pos. 41-51 and right, Pos 50-60.

There is only one constant broken letter, in Pos. 81, the O of ZONE is broken at the lower right, Fig. 4. This does not correspond to the postally issued sheets, which have (Refer to the "Check List" in *Canal Zone Stamps*) a broken O of ZONE reported at Pos. 14.

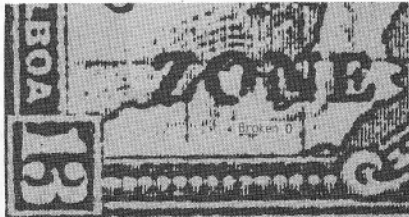


Fig. 4. CZSG #36S, Broken O, Pos. 81

There are two major errors of the specimen overprint found on this issue. On Sheet A, at Positions 80, 90, and 100, the specimen overprint is inverted. (Fig. 5.) These three are the only examples in the entire Canal Zone archive material. We assign this a CZSG # 36Sa. The other error is a true double overprint of SPECIMEN on Position 5 of Sheet C (about 65% inking). A second but partial double overprint was found on Position 44 of Sheet A (about 25% inking). This variety receives CZSG # 36Sb. Neither of the SPECIMEN doubles reproduce well.



Fig. 5. CZSG #36Sa, "SPECIMEN" Inverted, Pos. 80, 90 & 100.

10 centesimos, CZSG 37S

The 1911 10 cts. value is also exceptionally well produced. No broken letters are noted. Only two positions vary from the standard CANAL ZONE spacing of 13.8 to 14.1mm. Pos. 58, Fig. 6, has a spacing of 14.2mm, and Pos. 94, Fig. 7, is spaced at 13.5mm.

The two words, CANAL and ZONE, are evenly centered on all positions so that there are no Cover Z or Lover E varieties.

The "AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY, NEW YORK" logo noted on the top and bottom selvage of the 13 cts. design does not appear on the 10 cts. All four mid-point guide lines are present.

No varieties exist of the SPECIMEN overprint.

Plate Cancellation Proofs

On October 1933 single sheets of "Plate Cancellation Proofs" were struck of both denominations in the usual bright green color used for this purpose. It is believed that these imperforate green plate proof sheets were printed at the request of the Republic of Panama prior to the defacement or destruction of the plates. Similar proof sheets were found in the archives for most of the Panama stamps. These two do not have the CANAL ZONE overprint. As the two basic stamps were never used in Panama, we consider them to be of primary interest to the Canal Zone collector rather than the Panama collector. Nomenclature is again a problem. Superficially they resemble trial color proofs of the sheets on white cardboard, and can be called 36TC4 and 37TC4 (the "4" is a Scott designation for the paper). However, they are neither specimens nor trial colors and are described here since they were part of the archives. We have decided, so as to clearly identify these items, to call them CZSG 36PCP and 37PCP (the PCP for Plate Cancellation Proof). These are the only strictly Canal Zone ABNCo issues. There are other plate cancellation proofs of issues that were used by both Panama and the Canal Zone. We would suggest that they be designated "Panama ###PCP" in any to be published Panama ABNCo Archive listings.

These sheets, Figs. 8 and 9 respectively, CZSG 36PCP and 37PCP, have the F9756 order number in manuscript at the lower left corners of the sheets, and in dull gray to gray-green numbering machine marking at Pos. 99. The medium blue-green to deep blue ink pen markings include "10/6/33 Cancel SHL" and "10/10/33 JPD". The identity of the signers of these initials is not known.

(Continued on page 23)

ABNCo Specimens
(Continued from page 21)



Fig. 6. CZSG #37S. 14.2mm. Spacing, Pos. 58; and Right Horizontal Centerline Pos. 50/60. Normal spacing 13.9 to 14mm.

The left hand sign-off follows the rubber stamp format:

CANCELLATION IMPRESSION

ORDER No. _____
PLATE No. _____
PLATE CANCELLED _____
CERI TO OFFICE _____

A vertical ink smear, Fig. 10, in the proof color, defaces the impressions of Pos. 43-73.



Fig. 7. CZSG #37S, 13.5mm Spacing, Pos. 94. Normal spacing 13.9 to 14 mm. Note absence of ABNCo logo below Pos 95.



Fig. 10. CSSG #36PCP, Vertical ink smear, Pos. 53, 63.

Another question is to the meaning of a rubber stamp marking on the selvage in box letters "ROTARY PLATE" on the 13 cts. 36PCP, and "FLAT PLATE" on the 10 cs. 37PCP. Since the rubber stamp marking did not reproduce on the color copies of the sheets, a pencil notation has been added in the margins of the prints, "F2171 ROTARY" on the 13 cts., and "FLAT F2932" on the 10 cts. The F###s are the 1909 and 1911 order number for each of the original stamps. The words "ROTARY" and "FLAT" are the enigma.



Fig. 8. CZSG #36PCP, Bottom Rows of 13 cts. Proof Cancellation Sheet.



Fig. 9. CZSG #37PCP, Bottom Rows of 10 cts. Proof Cancellation Sheet.

New Postal Card? By Geoffrey Brewster, CZP 127: 9/14

Comments

Garry B. Weiss

The postal card discussed by Brewster (CZP127:9,12) raises interesting questions. The most important is what constitutes an official issue (or provisional postal stationery). It is not enough for an item to have sold over the counter of the post office to qualify for official status (and warrant future catalog listing); the item must have been authorized.

I have purchased stationery (in the States) soon after a rate change. Most often, I have received the old envelopes with loose additional stamps to make up the rate. Sometimes, the stamps were already affixed on the Zone. Once, the clerk pasted on the additional stamps while I watched. This was done as a convenience and was not officially authorized. They are not provisionals. Similarly, cards and envelopes were prepared and sold at various post offices in the Zone but I am unaware of any official notice to do this and believe that this was done as a personal convenience to the patrons.

The unusual card shown by Brewster probably was sold at a post office and is a highly desirable collectible (I would like to own an example); but as Brewster correctly notes, expertizing this item is currently impossible without additional information. Even if it was sold over the counter, it might not constitute a new postal card.

The additional "provisional stationery" described by Leeds (CZP 127:14) represents a different situation entirely. Without any additional markings on the envelope, the used item was most likely prepared by the sender. Envelopes to which the stamp was affixed by the postal clerk are indistinguishable from those prepared by the sender. I have a pair of postal cards in my collection that help to illustrate this problem. Each is Scott No. UX11 with additional franking (Scott No. 138) to make up the 4¢ air mail postal card rate to the United States. Both could represent other examples of "officially prepared" stationery but they are not. The later of the two cards, used May 5, 1953, even has a large "VIA AIR MAIL" handstamp similar to Entwistle MisM-10k (Fig. 1). By itself, a good case might be made that this is a provisional postal card. The companion card, Fig. 2, makes this explanation unlikely. The April 22, 1953 usage is from the same correspondence and the centering of the 2¢ adhesives is so similar as to suggest that they came from the same sheet. The two cards were almost certainly prepared by the sender adding the adhesive. The earlier card was mailed from the Diablo Heights post office (the sender's return address on both cards) and has no additional markings. The later card, mailed at Rodman, has a handstamp which was probably applied at Rodman by the clerk.

(Continued in col. 2)

Robert J. Karrer, Jr.

During my assignments on the Zone, there were many postal rate changes. One in particular I recall was the early 1968 one when regular mail went to 6c and airmail to 10c. At the Fort Gulick PO, existing supplies of postal stationery were definitely revised. The postmaster (PM) put a pair of 1/2c stamps # 136 on existing stocks of cards and envelopes used for boat mail. I frankly don't recall for sure that he did so with the air mail postal stationery which went up 2c. I have in my collection numerous covers addressed to my parents with this "provisional" usage.

At Quarry Heights the same thing was done on more than one occasion by Financial Branch Superintendent (FBS) - the term used by the CZPS for the senior person at the branch PO - only Balboa and Cristobal had a postmaster in the 1970's. I was good friends with FBS Al Hanson at Q Hts at this time and we often chattered about his "postmaster provisionals". Each FBS either chose to prepare or not his own revalued stationery, depending on his own preferences. It should be noted, that adding the stamps was kind of a bookkeeping pain in the neck, since until sold the stamps on the stationery were not in his stamp drawer. So, I suspect such revalued items were not prepared everywhere. Because I was attempting to make complete sets of all PO cancels on the then current stationery, I think I was in a pretty position to see this. To the best of my recollection when the rates went up to 8c and 13c very few FBS bothered. If someone forgot to add the stamps themselves, Mr. Hanson for one, just put the letter back in the offender's mail box with a stickum noting "postage due".

So yes I'm sure Geoffrey Brewster's example was prepared at a local PO. What makes it "neat" is the handstamp "Par Avion By Air Mail", I'd love to see a used example - otherwise we can also assume for sake of argument that a collector prepared a bunch of these and had his FBS apply the H/S or borrowed it to do it himself - either way, an interesting item.

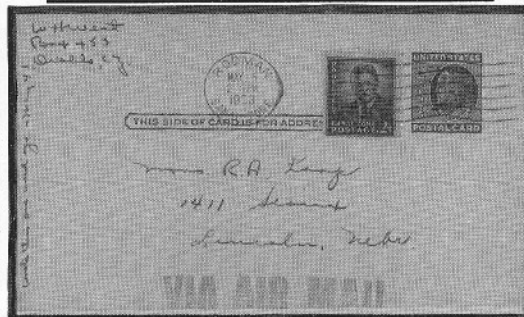


Fig. 1. UX11 with added No. 138 and "VIA AIR MAIL" handstamp.

(Continued on page 25)

Response

Geoffrey Brewster

Responding to the letters, let me say first that the caption in Fig. 1 of the article has the description "Provisional" in it in error, I carefully did NOT call it a *provisional*, as no permanent such card was ever issued; I called it a possible official such card, a "4c air mail postal card." I DID speculate on the possibility of a 5c *provisional* air postal card nine years later in 1958 prior to the issue of UCX1; but the 4c card couldn't have been a provisional and thus I did not say it might be that.

Before responding to the two letters, ... I wish to comment on Leeds' note added to my article; he calls the added stamp a 1c stamp but in fact it is a 3c stamp. He also suggests official placement near the LR of the card is unlikely because it would have required extra time to cancel the card, but then the handstamped marking would have had to be placed below the boxed "THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS" to make room for the stamp going left of the 1c Jefferson design. Then the air mail h/s might not be obvious to the postal workers and also might get mixed with the address. So I disagree that the stamp placement argues against official production, but it does suggest a problem the CZPS might have with this experiment, if that's what it was.

As to Weiss' letter, I must insist against my having termed the 4c card a possible provisional, but my main point would be to say the 1c card was not an obsolete card of an old rate subject to addition of postage to use them up for the new rate. This is not a *rate change* matter. My article deals with a possible *new form* of CZ postal stationery—an *air mail postal card*. So this answers Weiss' paragraph 2. As to his paragraph 1. I'm not sure he is correct about the factors needed for official status or catalog listing; but, of course, the point about my article was to speculate if my card was an official authorization. If we accept Gary's ideas, the Bliss Provisional Postage Dues may not be of official status or listable, if they're a postmaster's provisional or experiment or shortcut; I'm sure, if I thought more I could discuss other examples. Finally, Weiss says I say correctly that the item is "impossible" to expertize; I said no such thing, merely that it *may* be difficult to *verify* as official and to *authenticate* as genuine.

As to Karrer's letter, just as I said about Weiss' comments, this is not a matter of postal stationery undergoing a rate change, but a *new form* of postal stationery (the U.S. 4c Scott UXC1 was totally new postal stationery). I'm not sure if *any* rate change is involved here, for U.S. or C.Z.—was there an earlier airmail post card

(Continued on page 25)

G. Weiss Comments

(Continued from page 24)



Fig. 2. UX11 with added No. 138.

It would be incredibly unlikely that this was purchased over the counter at Rodman in view of the great similarity to the Diablo Heights card. Many other, different examples of postal cards uprated for air mail use are known from the Canal Zone but documentation is not available for any to qualify them as a "new postal card".

Gary B. Weiss

G. Brewster Response

(Continued from page 24)

rate, not 3c as that was surface letters, not 5c that was air letters, or did cards have the same air rate as air letters, or were air cards 3c?

Anyway, it's irrelevant, if interesting, because we're not dealing mainly with a rate change affecting a revised or revalued postal stationery item, but a *new kind* of postal stationery category developed to meet a new (or changed?) rate. So, a rate change or a new rate category was the impetus behind the card, perhaps, but the real cause was more likely copying the USPS's (or USPOD's) new card — that's the important factor. Also, I'm not sure one used example proves anything, and that without it automatically proves it's a collector-done item. Best proof is documentation of authorization *plus* several used examples from different addresses.

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Santa Clara Meeting

The CZSG held a regional meeting on Saturday, August 29, 1998, at the APS STAMPSHOW in Santa Clara, CA. The Santa Clara Convention Center is just about the latest word in well-planned and extra well-lighted facilities, and with excellent meeting rooms for the societies.

Attendance at the CZSG meeting was larger than usual with two guests and eighteen members present. President Jim Crumpacker called the meeting to order and requested that anyone with new information on the following subjects should contact him: precancels, WWI Censorship, APO'S, and postal rates. There followed a discussion on having CZ exhibits at one of the coming national shows.

Then a great "show & tell" session. On the memorabilia side a discussion of C.Z. automobile license plates was made and a motorcycle license plate was shown. A long forgotten article, first published in 1906 gave some astounding information on double and inverted surcharges on Scott Nos. 16 and 17 (see column to the right for story). An exceptional first day cover of Sc. No. 43 with an unusual corner card. "Panama Railroad Company, Commissary Department, Cristobal, Canal Zone," was passed around as was a single of Sc. No. J20b, the rose-red one which was found in a dealer's stock marked as a regular Sc. No. J20. (There are very few of these rose-red varieties known and if any members have an example please notify our president or editor and send a photocopy if possible.) Rates and destinations were discussed on various covers and post cards which had been picked up at the bourse. (Rates are apparently an endless subject and are often very difficult to figure out as many persons overpaid their correspondence.)

In addition to all the above there were present at the meeting two past editors of the CZP, two past presidents, and one past vice-president. It was a great meeting.

R. H. Salz

From Other Publications: Knights of Columbus Cards

D.J. Leeds

The subject of free Service Club picture post cards and other stationery was introduced in our 1994 Third Quarter (CZP 112:20). The June/July 1998 issue of *Isthmian Collectors Club (ICC) Journal* expands on the history of the Knights of Columbus in the Canal Zone (1905 to date). The 5-page article is illustrated with many photos of facilities and cards. Contact Robert J. Karrer, Jr. 17 Wentworth Street, Charleston SC 29401 for a copy of the article and membership in the Isthmian Collectors Club.

Scott No. 16 Double Surcharge

by R. H. Salz

A long-buried bit of information has surfaced about Scott Nos. 16 and 17. In the *Stamps of the Canal Zone* by Geo. L. Toppan, published by the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. in August 1906, there is quoted the following by Dr. J. C. Perry:

"Both a double and inverted surcharge has been detected in both denominations. The stamps are carefully examined and I doubt if any errors pass into circulation. Still, such may happen, and I record such as have been detected: 1 ct. Inverted surcharge, 50, 1 sheet; 1 ct. Double surcharge, 50, 1/2 sheet; 2 cts. Inverted surcharge, 50, 1/2 sheet; 2 cts. Double surcharge, 50, 1/2 sheet."

"Since writing the article already mentioned [the one above] I have seen two copies of the 1 cent, double surcharge, so that one sheet, or a portion of one, must have been sent to one of the post-offices. One of the specimens was on a letter returned to the dead-letter office; the other was found in a large lot of canceled stamps. Of course, others may "turn up", but the indications are that practically all were destroyed and lost."



Scott No. 16 with double surcharge.

The above Figure is from a photo of a 1998 APES certificate which states "Genuine in all respects." Previously, a certificate was issued in 1971 by the Philatelic Foundation authenticating this same stamp. Every part of the surcharge is double: the bars, the PANAMAs, the CANAL ZONE, and the 1 ct. Note that the double surcharge is not as heavily inked as on a normal stamp, thus you will note uninked areas particularly in the obliterating bars.

Everyone check your collections—maybe you will find a copy of the 1 et. double and who knows when the 2 cts double will appear. As for the inverted ones who knows? Good hunting and please notify your editor.

We Need Authors!

Back to Canal Zone Basics Gutter Snipes on Canal Zone Stamps

by R.D. Bates, Jr.

That gutter snipes could arise on Canal Zone stamps printed on *each* of the three presses used by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving (BEP) surprised this writer. To help the reader understand why, a definition of a gutter snipe and how one would arise will be given, followed by a summary of why finding one on a stamp printed on the flat plate press might seem unlikely.

Conventionally, stamps were printed by the BEP in a sheet of 400 subjects (20x20) that consisted of four panes (UL for upper left, UR, LL, and LR) 100 stamps each. Larger sized stamps such as commemoratives were printed in sheets of 200 stamps and separated into four panes of 50 stamps. (Though most of us routinely call what we buy at the post office a sheet of stamps, it is properly called a pane, with the word sheet being used to refer to the bigger piece of paper that was actually printed, then cut apart into panes.)

To facilitate the separation, stamps printed on the rotary and Giori presses had narrow strips of unprinted paper called gutters running vertically between the left and right panes, and running horizontally between the top and bottom pairs of panes. The cutting blade then was supposed to pass down the center of each gutter, separating the sheet into four panes, each of which would include one half the strip of unprinted paper from the gutter on two sides of the pane, the right and bottom for the UL pane, top and right for LL, etc.

When the cutting blade did not pass dead center, the margin strip would be narrower or wider than usual. If it was sufficiently off-center, the entire margin strip may wind up on one pane. Stamps that have the entire gutter including the additional perforations on the far side are known as gutter snipes. An example of Scott number 116 shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1. Scott No. 116 gutter snipe.

It is possible that the blade is further off-center and that part or all of the stamp from the next pane will appear. Gutter snipes are best classed as oddities, of special interest to the fly-speck collectors, but not worthy of listing in the Scott catalogue. (However, if the full stamp from the adjacent pane appears, a listable variety occurs, referred to as a pair with a full gutter between. To the best of this writer's knowledge, none of these major varieties exists on Canal Zone stamps.) Though gutter snipes might seem to be perforation varieties, they actually are not. The perforations are in the correct place. It is simply that the blade used to cut the panes apart has passed in the wrong place, resulting in the perfs being a part of, or at least included in the wrong pane of stamps.

The way a gutter snipe originates can be seen most clearly in Fig. 2 which shows a pair of Scott number 115 from the UL corner of a LR pane. The horizontal perforations do not show well on this pair, as they are filed. The top selvedge is unusually wide and shows both horizontal rows of perforation plus a bit of the bottom stamps from the top sheet, though not any of the design.



Fig. 2. Scott No. 115 gutter snipe with "+" at UL.

In the margin at left is a "+" which would appear in the center of the space where the gutter between the top and bottom panes intersects the gutter between the left and right panes, the cross gutter. Normally only a small portion of this "+" would appear, but in this case it is nearly complete as the full vertical stroke is visible and more than half the horizontal portion. The horizontal cutting blade was sufficiently out of place that the entire gutter remained associated with the lower panes. This is an example of a gutter snipe originating on a stamp printed by the rotary press, as is Scott number 116 shown in Fig. 1. Scott numbers 115 and 116 were both printed on the rotary press. The only Canal Zone stamps printed on the rotary press were Scott numbers 97-104, 115-116, 118-119 (all overprinted US issues), 164, C34 plus the coil stamps assigned Scott numbers 153-155 and 160-162.

Gutter snipes can also be found on stamps printed on the Giori press. This was used to print the last three commemorative stamps, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Thatcher Ferry Bridge, (Scott numbers 151, 156, and 157), earlier commemorative stamps having been printed with the flat press. The Giori press was also used to print the definitives assigned Scott numbers 158-159, 163 and 165, plus air mail stamps assigned Scott numbers C32-3, and C35-53. Here the markings are a bit different as illustrated in Fig. 3.



Fig. 3. Scott No. 157 gutter snipe.

The pair of the Thatcher Bridge stamp, Scott number 157 is from the UR corner of a LL pane, and shows no markings in the bit of selvedge that would include the "+", or at least a good part of it, if one were present. But the block in Fig. 4 from the LR of a LL pane of Scott number 165 has a faint vertical line that may barely show in the photo in the small bit of selvedge at the bottom, centered midway in the margin where the cutting blade should have passed.



Fig. 4. Scott No. 165 gutter snipe with marginal marking LR.

(Continued on page 27)

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Gutter Snipes

(Continued from page 26)

At present gutter snipes are known to exist on five Canal Zone issues: Scott numbers 115 at top, 116 at left, 157 at top, 165 at right, and C29 at bottom. The first two were printed on the rotary press, the second two on the Giori press. The last one, C29, was printed on the flat press. Why might that seem unusual?

Gutter snipes on stamps printed on the flat plate press are decidedly less likely, because the majority of stamps printed on the flat press did not have gutters to separate the panes in a sheet; rather they were cut with straight edges on two sides along horizontal and vertical guide lines that divided the sheet into quarters. So a pane cut off center will show the full guide line, and might show a bit of the first stamp from the next pane if cut sufficiently off center. But no gutter snipes. As described in a previous article in this series, *The CZP 93:30*, there are several characteristics stamps of similar appearance printed on the rotary and flat plate presses, including size, perforations, and gum. To that list, one may add gutters and guide lines, though this only helps in distinguishing rotary and flat press stamps with the same design. If it has part of a guide line, it is a flat press stamp. Naturally narrow selvage (i.e. not cut down) at top, left or right indicates a rotary press stamp; narrow selvage at bottom could be from one of the bottom panes of a flat press sheet, or one of the top panes of a rotary press sheet.

Some flat plate stamps, Scott numbers C21 to C26 for example, had the guide lines but were perforated along them, then separated by hand into four panes. But still no possibility of gutter snipes. There is a nice description of this in Chapter 16 of *Canal Zone Stamps* on page 219. But the stamps printed on the flat plate press late in the period during which it was used had no guide lines and did have a gutter between adjacent panes. Scott numbers C27 to C31 fall into this category. The copy of Scott number C29



Fig. 5. Scott No. C29 gutter snipe.

with the gutter snipe in Fig. 5 is an example from one of the few stamps from a flat plate printing that can exhibit them.

Collectors are invited to submit examples of other gutter snipes to this writer or to the Editor.

3¢ Goethals Booklets

by Gary E. Saum

In *Canal Zone Stamps* there is a chapter on booklets containing the 3¢ Goethals stamp. It states, "At first these booklets were handmade [Scott No. 117b] and later they were machine-made [Scott No. 117a]." In my collection I have examples of intact booklets of both varieties. Upon comparison of my booklet covers with the descriptions of the booklet covers for the two issues, I have found an inconsistency for which I am seeking an explanation.

The inconsistency involves the back covers of the booklets. *CZS*, page 288, states that for the handmade booklet, "The back cover is printed with five postal slogans with ruled lines between the slogans," Fig. 1. On page 289 it is stated that for the machine-made booklet (produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing), "The pack cover is printed with five postal slogans without ruled lines between the slogans," Fig. 2.

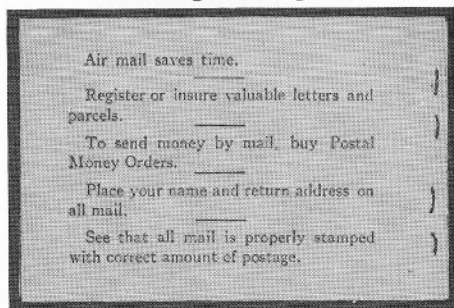


Fig. 1. Back Cover, Handmade Booklet.

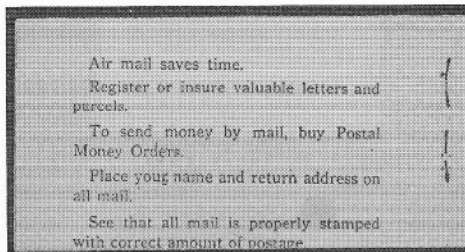


Fig. 2. Back Cover, Machine-made Booklet.

My question concerns the source of the back cover shown in Fig. 3. It is part of an intact booklet housing two of the machine-made panes. However, the back cover as shown includes the ruled lines between the slogans as described for the handmade booklets. The overall size and layout of the printed slogans with ruled lines on the back covers of the handmade booklet and the booklet shown in Fig. 3 are almost, but not quite, a perfect match,

maybe due to the thickness or impression of the ink. Otherwise the booklet's back cover is nearly identical to the machine-made booklet's back shown in Figure 2. Figure 3 is of approximately the same size, 1mm higher (43mm) but not as long (181mm instead of 181.5mm). The card stock, printing and even the staples are the same as the booklet in Fig. 2.

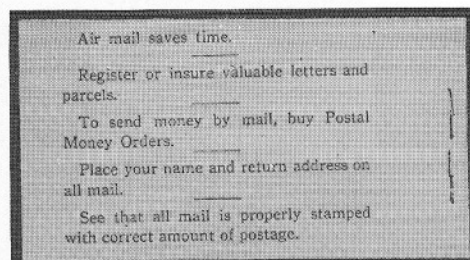


Fig. 3. Back Cover, Machine-made Booklet (?).

Given the forgoing information the question may be asked, does the machine-made 3¢ Goethals booklet typically come with both styles of back cover or is there some other reason for the use of the back cover with ruled lines between the slogans?

[Editor's Note: Gary Saum's question, along with the illustrations has been submitted to several CZSG booklet pane experts. Their consensus was that it is the first time that this has been reported, and that they had no explanation. One response indicated the possibility that it might have been a mixup of a collector reassembled booklet that just got the wrong back. Since Saum's booklet is described as intact this response is moot, unless it had been tampered with. Another problem is that the covers for the handmade booklets were printed locally, and the machine-made booklets printed (and machine assembled) in Washington, there is little opportunity for a production mixup. Response from other collectors should be made to the Editor.]

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